

I urge my colleagues to vote to support the President's plan.

□ 1015

IN SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC
ENERGY PLAN

510-PAGE ENERGY REPORT MAKES GOOD FIREPLACE FUEL

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, some skeptics say that this extraordinary piece of work, the so-called Securing America's Future Energy Act of 2001, all 510 pages, looks more to the past than to the future. Those skeptics say that the emphasis on dig, drill, burn everywhere and anywhere, including the ANWR, is not forward-looking; that the \$44 billion in subsidies, including billions to the cash-rich oil and gas industry, which is already gouging American consumers and cannot spend the money fast enough, is not a good idea.

They think the new push for nuclear power, despite the fact that we have not resolved what to do with the waste we have already created, is a folly. They ignore the tissue of conservation and renewables that has been drawn over this for face-saving on the part of the Republicans.

In fact, they miss the real value of this report. We are going to mail one to every American, all 510 pages, and everybody who has a wood stove or a fireplace will be able to stay warm for a few minutes next winter.

SUPPORT AMERICAN PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO DRIVE SAFER CARS

(Mr. KNOLLENBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today the House will consider an amendment to the energy bill that will raise CAFE standards. Let us be clear, this amendment will be doing nothing more than punishing the auto industry for the sin of making cars that people want to buy.

If this amendment becomes law, Americans will be forced to drive smaller cars that are less safe than what we drive now, and we will see more traffic fatalities. But do not take my word for it. The recent report by the National Academy of Sciences confirms that the downsizing of vehicles in order to comply with current CAFE standards costs American lives. There is a clear correlation between size and risk.

Mr. Speaker, are we ready to sacrifice safety to reduce consumption? I hope not. I urge my colleagues to oppose any increase in CAFE standards beyond what is already in the bill, and support the American people's right to drive safe cars.

ENERGY POLICY

(Ms. SANCHEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about the type of energy policy that our great Nation should embrace, not the one that the President has put forward.

We should support plans that recognize the need for new energy production and generation, but will at the same time save consumers money, continue the important work to cut pollutants that affect the health of every American, create real jobs and will reduce our percentage of imported foreign oil.

We should support flexible tax credits and incentives for high-efficiency vehicles, the purchase of energy-efficient homes, home and business improvements that reduce our energy costs, critical improvements to our energy infrastructure and energy produced from renewable resources.

I support an energy plan that will combine improvements to our existing energy processes, the development of new and renewable energy resources and energy conservation which truly does make a difference. In California alone we have seen already a 17 percent decrease in consumption by our retail consumers.

I believe, like most Americans, that a well-balanced energy plan is what we need as a country as we enter the dawn of the 21st century.

EXPLORING THE ARCTIC NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make the American people aware of truth about exploring the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. There is a great misconception perpetuated by the opponents of the President's energy plan, that exploring in ANWR will have an extensive detrimental effect on the wildlife in Alaska. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The proposed area is here in this map. Can anybody find the red dot? This is Alaska. This is the State of Texas. This is the State of South Carolina. That little red dot in there is ANWR.

The land in question is 3.13 square miles. Now, that is a tiny area. It is so small that we can hardly even see it here in the House on this graph. What is more, this 3 square miles is not the ecological wonderland that the opposition has made it out to be. It is a frozen desert with few signs of life.

Mr. Speaker, it is time that the American people cast aside the fabrication of environmental radicalism and explore ANWR's energy resources.

(Ms. DeLAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership energy bill is nothing more than a grab bag of goodies for the big special interests in the energy industry.

For the first time, it would allow drilling for oil in the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, while providing numerous kickbacks for the oil and gas industry, up to \$34 billion in tax credits and royalties to the industry.

The Bush administration and the House leadership will argue that the revised energy plan is balanced, that it includes conservation measures, but the devil is in the details. Their plan provides a fig leaf towards conservation measures and investments in research and development of renewables. It provides billions in tax provisions without any way to pay for them. Instead of finding the offsets, their plan irresponsibly crosses the threshold into the Medicare trust funds.

In stark contrast is the Democratic plan. It is a balanced approach, talking about both supply and demand. It invests in renewable sources of energy, utilizes new technology, bolsters production without harming the environment and provides pro-consumer, fiscally responsible tax incentives for the use of energy-efficient vehicles and appliances. This is the kind of long-term policy we need.

EXPANDING TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "We rail at trade, but the historian of the world will see that it was the principle of liberty; that it settled America, and destroyed feudalism, and made peace and keeps peace." I could not agree more.

Trade is not just about exports and imports. It is not solely about opening new markets to American technology and services. Instead, trade is about harnessing the growth and innovation of the American marketplace to improve the quality of life both domestically and internationally.

Trade promotion authority in turn further enables the exchange of services, goods and services, ideas and information. TPA requires a collaborative partnership between the President and the Congress allowing Congress to share concerns, priorities and goals before and throughout negotiations. The House is allowed to express its interest in issues whether they relate to environment or labor that otherwise might not be considered during the negotiation process at all.

The United States must lead by example. On trade, however, we are far behind. Of the more than 130 trade agreements worldwide, the United States is party to only two. TPA will enable the President and the Congress to reverse this trend and ensure that our exports reach the outside world along with our outlook and ideals.

ENERGY BILL BONANZA FOR BIG OIL

(Mr. SHERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, the energy bill is a bonanza for big oil. It lets them drill in environmentally sensitive lands, gives them \$30 billion in tax cuts and another \$7 billion of rollbacks and royalties.

Listen to this. They tell us government should act like private business. Would a private businessperson let an oil company drill on his land without getting a royalty? That is what this bill does. It is a bonanza for big oil.

But let us say we like giving the oil companies \$37 billion. Should we not at least pay for it? The Committee on Rules has prohibited any amendments to make this bill pay for itself. As a result, all the bonanza for the oil companies comes right out of the Medicare trust fund. Wake up. We have a new economic situation, a new President and there is no surplus except the Medicare surplus.

Finally, the Committee on Rules has decided not even to allow California and the Western states a chance on this floor to ask to change our clocks and use daylight saving time in more creative ways. There is nothing in the bill for conservation and everything for the oil companies.

AMERICA'S NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY PLAN

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, to this date, America has not had a comprehensive energy policy. The results were expressed last year when President Clinton's Energy Secretary Bill Richardson admitted, "It is obvious that the Federal Government was not prepared. We were caught napping. We got complacent."

Mr. Speaker, we all agree that these problems do not happen overnight and they cannot be solved overnight, but with Americans now facing rising utility bills, high gasoline prices and rolling blackouts and brownouts, I believe Congress must act to pass President Bush's far-reaching plan which is balanced and responsive in addressing America's energy needs.

The President's plans offers 105 specific recommendations to address America's current energy shortage and

provides reliable and affordable supply for the future. It starts with conversation and includes friendly changes to increase our domestic supply, improve delivery, reform outdated regulations and encourage energy diversity.

It is unnecessary that nearly 60 percent of America's oil is imported. It is unbelievable that large portions of our oil and gas are in hands of Mommar Quadaffi and Saddam Hussein. It is outrageous that Members of this House choose to put politics before the people.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to adopt the President's energy plan.

ENERGY SECURITY ACT INCREASES ENERGY PRODUCTION

(Mr. TANCREDO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the Energy Security Act helps America address its energy problems by increasing our energy production on existing Federal sites. It helps us get more oil from our existing oil wells, more natural gas from our existing natural gas wells, more hydropower from our existing Federal dams.

It looks for ways to produce more energy from wind, sun and geothermal heat, all from Federal lands. It also allows careful, gentle oil development of 2,000 acres in the Arctic by using the latest technology and adherence to the strictest environmental laws.

The Energy Security Act does what we need to increase our production of energy, and together with bills from other committees, will form a comprehensive package that emphasizes vigorous conservation, more research, more reliance on clean and renewable energies, and the wise increase of energy production. As for California, its problems will not be solved until it changes its attitude with regard to energy production and changes its political leaders.

SUPPORTING A BALANCED AND COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY BILL

(Mrs. WILSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, today is an important day in the House. We are going to bring forward an energy bill, the first comprehensive energy bill we have had in this country for almost 20 years.

It is a long-term, balanced approach to energy policy that includes increases in both production and conservation. But I have to give credit to both sides of the aisle here because this House decided to start with conservation.

The bill includes a measure that will save 5 billion gallons of gasoline from SUV and light truck production over

the next 6 years. That is the equivalent of parking the 1999 production of SUVs for 2 years and not even driving them.

It includes standards for televisions and appliances and energy efficiency, accelerating the clean coal program and tax credits for solar homes. Those tax credits in that bill do not go to big oil. They go to people like me and others like me who live in solar heated homes in the Southwest.

This is a balanced, comprehensive approach that includes input from many rank-and-file Members of this House, and I commend the leadership and the bipartisan majority that will pass it today.

EPA ASSAULT ON HUDSON RIVER COMMUNITIES

(Mr. SWEENEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on one of the infamous days for the citizens of New York's 22nd congressional district, a district that I represent.

That is because yesterday, regrettably, the EPA Administrator leaked to the press her decision to dredge over 40 miles, 2.6 million cubic yards, 100,000 dump-truck loads of sludge from the bottom of the Hudson River.

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This is after much debate and much study but, more importantly, after weeks of negotiation where we sought to bring the parties together so that we could find an amicable and immediate solution.

This decision will wreak havoc on the citizens of the 22nd Congressional District. I would ask my colleagues to imagine, imagine finding out that your life has been turned upside down through a press leak; imagine knowing that this could lead to the seizure of your home, of your property, a change of your quality of life; imagine for 20 years, fighting on an issue in which almost every public-appointed and elected official has abandoned you, and then having this occur to you.

Mr. Speaker, shame on the EPA, shame on the administrator. I vow to continue this fight on behalf of the citizens of the 22nd Congressional District.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4, SECURING AMERICA'S FUTURE ENERGY ACT OF 2001

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 216 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 216

Resolved, That at any time after the adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the